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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/851,765 | 05/09/2001 | Rory A. Heim | 10006454-1 | 3814 |

7590 08/26/2003
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

NGHIEM, MICHAEL P

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2863

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/851,765

Applicant(s)

HEIM ET AL.

Examiner

Michael P Nghiem

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-12 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,13,14 and 16-21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

The Response filed on June 2, 2003 has been acknowledged.

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on June 2, 2003 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of US patent 6,454,381 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Withdrawal of Allowability

2. The indicated allowability of claim 15 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Childers et al. (US 6,305,795). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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Claims 9-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 9, 16, is the ink delivered to the printhead different from the ink extraction from the ink delivery system? They seem to be the same.

The remaining claims are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4-12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Childers et al. (US 6,305,795).

Childers et al. discloses all the claimed features of the invention including:

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- an inkjet printing system (Fig. 2) configured for receiving a replaceable ink container (22), the replaceable ink container having ink extraction characteristics that vary with ink extraction (e.g. ink level vs. ink usage), the inkjet printing system comprising:

- an ink extraction control device (18) for determining ink extracted from the replaceable ink container (column 9, lines 32-33) and for selecting an ink usage rate print mode (column 9, lines 29-31) from a plurality of different ink usage rate print modes (column 4, lines 43-48) based on ink extraction characteristics of the replaceable ink container (ink usage vs. number of drops ejected, column 9, lines 29-31);

- the plurality of different ink usage rate print modes includes at least a first printing mode with a first ink usage rate and at least a second printing mode with a second ink usage rate different from the first ink usage rate (printer has different usage rates, column 4, lines 43-48);

- the replaceable ink container has ink extraction characteristics that vary with the ink level within the replaceable ink container (column 9, lines 28-29);

the replaceable ink container has a gauge pressure characteristic based on ink usage which varies with ink level within the ink container (column 9, lines 34-36);

- ink extraction characteristics are stored on an electrical storage device (90) associated with the replaceable ink container, and wherein the ink extraction characteristics are provided to the control device after installation of the replaceable ink container into the inkjet printing system (column 9, lines 1-3);

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- the monitoring and control device determines an amount of ink delivered to the printhead over a given time interval based on an extraction rate for an ink container that is determined based on ink remaining in the ink container (column 9, lines 3-12);

- the monitoring and control device adjusts rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system by selectively controlling numbers of nozzles activated (inherent with controlling the number of drops ejected).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 2, 3, 13, and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 15-21 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Reasons For Allowance

7. The combination or method as claimed wherein selecting a print mode froth a plurality of different print modes based on ink extraction characteristics of the replaceable ink container, wherein each print mode of the plurality of different print modes has a different pause value associated therewith (claims 2, 3, 14) or adjusting a

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rate of ink extraction from the supply of ink during a print operation if the ink flow from the printhead exceeds ink flow into the printhead by a threshold amount (claims 13, 16) is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Nghiem whose telephone number is (703) 306-3445. The examiner can normally be reached on M-H from 6:30AM – 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached at (703) 308-3126. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-5841 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Nghiem', with a stylized flourish at the end.

MICHAEL NGHIEM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Michael Nghiem

August 15, 2003